

# Great Sand Dunes

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Great Sand Dunes National Park  
and Preserve



## Free Ranger Programs      June 14 – June 18, 2016

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### Tuesday, June 14

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** - Find your inner Junior Park Ranger on this short hike to find out about the different habitats which make the Great Sand Dunes unique. You will collect soil samples and identify plants to find out what habitat you are visiting. This program is geared for kids 5 to 13 and will help them finish their Junior Ranger books. Visitor Center Sand Sheet Loop, 30 minutes.

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### Wednesday, June 15

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** - Discover how the dunes were formed and other fascinating aspects of the park and preserve. Visitor Center, 25 minutes

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### Thursday, June 16

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “The Stories Objects Tell”** - Come discover the unique artifacts and objects that help tell the stories of lure and mystery of Great Sand Dunes. Experience how to throw an atlatl, an ancient hunting tool. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

**8:45 pm Evening Program - "Night Skies and our National Parks"** - For millennia, humans have gazed upon the night sky, forging a unique connection to our cosmos. Join a ranger to become inspired by our enduring resource, the night sky! Telescope viewing will take place after the program; weather permitting. Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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### Friday, June 17

**9am – 3pm Free Art Event: Environmental Sculpture Workshop with Dana Provence** - Join professional sculptor Dana Provence, professor at Adams State University, for a free, enjoyable, thought-provoking environmental art workshop along Medano Creek. Participants will create temporary outdoor sculptures by designing and engaging with the natural materials found on the site. There is a maximum of 10 participants, call the visitor center at 719-378-6395 to reserve a spot.

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program “Shining Through the Fire”** - At Great Sand Dunes, beautiful natural objects and diverse peoples of the past have endured literal and metaphorical fire to come out ‘Shining Through the Fire.’ Touch real meteorites, a small tube of glass formed from lightning, and artifacts from various cultures. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

**8:45pm Evening Program – “Sand Here, Sand Everywhere!”**- Join a park ranger on virtual adventure across the country as we discover amazing dune systems and recreational opportunities located all around the Eastern United States! Amphitheater, 45 minutes

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### Saturday, June 18

**1:00 pm Discovery Activity** - Find your inner Junior Park Ranger on this short hike to find out about the different habitats which make the Great Sand Dunes unique. You will collect soil samples and identify plants to find out what habitat you are visiting. This program is geared for kids 5 to 13 and will help them finish their Junior Ranger books. Visitor Center Sand Sheet Loop, 30 minutes

**3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Dunes Mystery”** - Come discover the powerful forces which created the dunes and surrounding pristine environment that stands alone in mystery. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

**8:45 pm Evening Program - “The Park after Dark”** - Half the park is after dark! Discover the beautiful secrets of owls, nocturnal animals, stars, planets, galaxies, our moon, and meteors. Touch real pieces of the Moon and Mars! Brief constellation tour with laser pointer afterward, weather permitting. Amphitheater, 35 minutes

*All programs are free and open to the public. More information: [www.nps.gov/grsa](http://www.nps.gov/grsa) (719) 378-6395*